

CLAIMS

1. A method in connection with processing polymer or elastomer material, wherein additive is added to the polymer or elastomer material, and the additive is subjected to the desired chemical reaction, **character-**
5 **ized** in that infrared radiation is introduced into the polymer or elastomer material, the wavelength of the radiation being so chosen that the radiation optimally penetrates the polymer or elastomer material, but absorbs in the additive producing the desired chemical reaction therein.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** in that the
10 wavelength of the infrared radiation is chosen on the basis of the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material and the additive, so that the wavelength corresponds optimally to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the additive and as poorly as possible to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material.
- 15 *Sub A1* 3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that the additive is an organic peroxide.
4. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that the additive is a chemical foaming agent.
5. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in
20 that the wavelength of the infrared radiation is produced by means of the temperature of the infrared source.
6. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 5, **characterized** in that the infrared radiation is chosen by removing wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material.
- 25 7. A method as claimed in claim 6, **characterized** in that wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material are removed from the infrared radiation by means of a filter.
8. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that infrared radiation is led to the polymer material
30 in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.
- add A2*